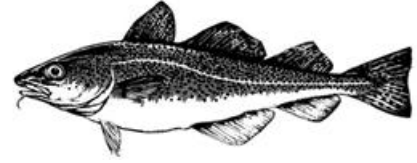


**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME  
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES  
NEWS RELEASE**



*Cora Campbell, Commissioner  
Jeff Regnart, Director*



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**2012 SOUTH ALASKA PENINSULA AREA STATE-WATERS PACIFIC COD  
JIG SEASON OPENING ANNOUNCED EO# 4-GF-07-12**

The Western Gulf of Alaska parallel Pacific cod season will close to jig gear **March 17 at 12:00 noon**. The state-waters Pacific cod season for vessels using jig gear will open 48-hours later in the South Alaska Peninsula Area on **March 19 at 12:00 noon unless delayed by weather**. For vessels participating in the Western Gulf of Alaska parallel Pacific cod jig fishery, all Pacific cod must be delivered prior to participating in the South Alaska Peninsula Area state-waters season.

Jig vessels may not operate more than 5 mechanical jig machines with no more than 30 hooks per line. Jig vessels are allocated 15 percent of the total South Alaska Peninsula GHL or 2.30 million pounds.

All vessels participating in the South Alaska Peninsula Area state-waters Pacific cod season may not exceed 58 feet in overall length. Vessel operators must obtain an exclusive state-waters vessel registration from ADF&G prior to participating in the state-waters season.

As a reminder, vessels may not participate in a state-waters Pacific cod season and any other Pacific cod season at the same time. Vessels registered for the state-waters season must invalidate their state-waters registration before that vessel may participate in any other Pacific cod season.

**WEATHER DELAY**

The state-waters season opening for jig vessels will be delayed for 24-hours if the National Weather Service (NWS) 48-hour marine weather forecast for Area 155 issued at 4 a.m. on March 19 contains gale force wind warnings (35 knots or higher). If the jig gear season opening is delayed and the following day's 4 a.m. 48-hour forecast again contains gale warnings, the season opening will be delayed an additional 24-hours. Season opening delays may continue on a rolling 24-hour basis for up to seven days beyond the initial opening date. After seven days, the jig season will open regardless of the NWS marine weather forecast for Area 155.

For more information, contact the Alaska Department of Fish & Game in Kodiak at 486-1840.

Contact Inseason Management staff National Marine Fisheries Service (907) 586-7228 for more information on fishing outside of state waters.